

REPORT

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

*In compliance with a resolution of the Senate in relation to the removal of the Superintendents of the public Armories at Springfield and Harper's Ferry.*

JUNE 29, 1842.

Read, and referred to the Committee on Printing.

JULY 2, 1842.

Ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *June 27, 1842.*

SIR: In answer to a resolution of the Senate of the 24th instant, requiring from this Department information "when the late superintendents of the public armories at Springfield and Harper's Ferry were removed, and whether successors have been appointed, when, by whom, in virtue of what authority, and the purport of their commissions," I have the honor to state, that, on the 15th day of April, 1841, the Rev. John Robb was removed from the office of superintendent of the Springfield armory, and that, on the same day, Edward Lucas was removed from the office of superintendent of the armory at Harper's Ferry, by direction of the President of the United States. No successors have been appointed to either of the said offices; but they have been suffered to remain vacant under a thorough conviction that a superintendent not subject to the responsibilities of a military officer, was injurious to the public service. By section nine of the act of February 8, 1815, and which is believed to be in full force, the different public armories are placed under the direction of the Ordnance Department. An officer of that corps was accordingly detailed to direct the concerns of each of the armories by the authority of the President, under regulations and instructions prescribed by the same authority.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. SPENCER.

Hon. W. MANGUM, *President of the Senate.*

Thomas Allen, print.

## REPORT

FROM

## THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

in compliance with a resolution of the Senate in relation to the removal of the Special Inspectors of the Public Buildings at Springfield and Harper's Ferry.

June 29, 1842.

Read, and referred to the Committee on Printing.

July 2, 1842.

Ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 27, 1842.

Sir: In answer to a resolution of the Senate of the 24th instant, requiring the War Department information "when the late superintendents of the public buildings at Springfield and Harper's Ferry were removed, and whether persons have been appointed, when by whom, in virtue of what authority, and the purpose of their commissions," I have the honor to state that on the 10th day of April, 1841, the Hon. John Floyd was removed from the office of superintendent of the Springfield armory, and that on the same day Edward Loring was removed from the office of superintendent of the Harper's Ferry, by direction of the President of the United States. Persons have been appointed to either of the said offices; but they have not yet assumed the duties of their offices, and the said offices are now vacant. It is not subject to the responsibilities of a military officer, and is not in the public service. By section nine of the act of February 8, 1815, and which is believed to be in full force, the different public buildings are placed under the direction of the Ordnance Department. An officer of that department is appointed to direct the concerns of each of the armories by the authority of the President, under regulations and instructions prescribed by the War Department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. STEPHENS.

J. M. Mason, President of the Senate.